

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING**

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## **CRITERIA FOR FURNISHING NUMBER UTILIZATION BY CERTIFIED NURSE-MIDWIVES**

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### **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Nursing Practice Act, Business and Professions Code (B&P) section 2746.52 authorizes certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) to obtain and utilize a "furnishing number" to furnish drugs and/or devices. Furnishing of drugs and/or devices by a CNM means "the act of making a pharmaceutical agent or agents available to the patient in strict accordance with a standardized procedure".

### **II. PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS**

The following criteria must be met by the CNM in order to utilize the furnishing number to furnish drugs and/or devices pursuant to this section.

1. **Furnishing Number---**Include the furnisher's name and furnishing number on the transmittal order form for drugs and/or devices. Prescription pads may be used as transmittal order forms as long as they contain the furnisher's name and furnishing number. Pharmacy law requires a physician's name on the drug and/or device container label which inclusion on the transmittal order form facilitates dispensing of the drug or device by the pharmacist.
2. **Limitations on Drugs and/or Devices---** The drugs and/or devices are furnished by a CNM in accordance with standardized procedures or protocols developed by the CNM and supervising physician under any of the following circumstances:
  - When furnished incidental to the provision of family planning services.
  - When furnished incidental to the provision of routine health care or prenatal care.
  - When rendered to essentially healthy persons.

Furnished drugs and/or devices shall not include controlled substances under the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act, Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code and shall be further limited to those drugs and devices agreed upon and specified in the standardized procedure.

3. **Standardized Procedures---**Furnish the drugs and/or devices in accordance with standardized procedures as defined in B&P code section 2725 and 2746.51 of the Nursing Practice Act. A drug formulary may be incorporated into the standardized procedure as described in the Board advisory statement, "An Explanation of the Scope of RN Practice Including Standardized Procedures."

4. **Sites**---Furnish the drugs and devices in one of the following sites:
- Clinics---community, free, chronic dialysis, rehabilitation, government operated, hospital outpatient clinics, or Indian clinic on tribal land.
  - Group Practice---offices or clinics of licensed health care providers who are in group practice. **Solo practitioners may not utilize furnishing numbers. A solo practice is defined as a nursing practice which is solely owned and operated by the CNM or a group of CNMs.**
  - Physician's Office---office of physicians in group practice who provide a preponderance of their services to members of a prepayment health care service plan.
  - Hospitals---acute care or maternity hospitals.
  - Student Health Centers---student health centers operated by public institutions of higher education.
5. **Physician Supervision**---Furnish the drugs and/or devices under the supervision of a physician. Board approval of the supervising physician is not required. For furnishing purposes, the physician may supervise a maximum of no more than four (4) CNMs at one time.
6. **Patient Education**---Prior to the furnishing of drugs and devices, the CNM must provide appropriate educational information to the patient.

Other Board advisory statements related to the furnishing of drugs and/or devices which may be obtained from either of the Board's offices are:

- Acceptance and Implementation of Orders.
- An Explanation of the Scope of RN Practice Including Standardized Procedures.

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